On page 4, in line 20, after "element 7" insert --from a control 22-- and after "applied" insert --by the control 22--; and

after line 28, add the following new paragraph --

Although other modifications and changes may be suggested by those skilled in the art, it is the intention of the inventors to embody within the patent warranted hereon all changes and modifications as reasonably and properly come within the scope of their contribution to the art—.

IN THE CLAIMS

On page 5, in line 1, change "Patent Claims" to --We Claim:--.

Amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A supply module [(2)] for feeding electrical components [(5)] to an automatic component-mounting machine having a component-mounting head, comprising:

[(5) can be] displaced in an advancing direction along an advancing plane
to a removal [in the supply module into a collection] position from which
the components are [they can be] removed by the [a] component-mounting
head of the automatic component-mounting machine [and can be placed
onto a component carrier to be populated], said component displacement
apparatus defining a removal opening at a removal side through which the

a component displacement apparatus in which [case] the electrical components are

component-mounting head removes the electrical components; [in which case a removal side of the collection position can be blocked by means of] an adjustable locking element [(7),] that [covers the supplied component (5)] at least partially blocks an electrical component at the removal opening when said adjustable locking element is in a blocking position and that releases the electrical component at the removal opening when said adjustable

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locking element is [(5)] in a removal position, [characterized in that the] said adjustable locking element including [(7) is designed as] a strip extending in the advancing direction, said strip having a [the] width of [which strip is] less than a [the] lateral distance between the electrical component at the removal opening [(5)] and an adjacent exterior side [(3)] of the component displacement apparatus [supply module (2)], said adjacent exterior side extending in the advancing direction and being perpendicular to the advancing plane, said adjustable [and in that the] locking element being selectively movable [(7) can be moved] transversely with respect to the advancing direction into an [the] edge region between the electrical component at the removal position [(5)] and the exterior side [(3)].

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2.(Amended) A [The] supply module as claimed in claim 1, wherein said adjustable [characterized in that the] locking element [(7)] is [designed as] a narrow finger projecting in the advancing direction, said narrow finger having a [the] free end [of] which [finger] forms the strip and projects into the removal position over the electrical [region of the] component [(5)] in the blocking position, and said [in that the] free end being movable [can be moved] into the edge region by lateral deflection.

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3.(Amended) A [The] supply module as claimed in claim 2, wherein said narrow [characterized in that the] finger [(e.g. 7)] is [designed as] a freely projecting bending spring which is anchored by its non-free end on a fixed bearing [(8)] of the component displacement apparatus [supply module (2)].

4.(Amended) A [The] supply module as claimed in claim 3, wherein said



<u>freely projecting</u> [characterized in that the] bending spring is [designed as] an electrically actuable [, in particular piezoceramic,] bending transducer [(e.g. 7)].

Add new claim 5 as follows:

5. A supply module as claimed in claim 4, wherein said electrically actuable bending transducer is of piezoceramic material.

Add new claim 6 as follows:

- 6. A component supply module for supplying components to a mounting head, comprising:
- a component carrying belt moving in a conveying direction and having component holding locations distributed along its length;
- a cover over said component carrying belt to hold the components in said component holding locations during movement of said component carrying belt, said cover defining a removal opening at a removal position through which the mounting head accesses the components for removal from the supply module; and
- a component restraining element mounted on said cover and having a free end extending over said removal opening when in a restraining position, said component restraining element substantially preventing the component in said removal position from being dislodged from its component holding location when said component restraining element is in the restraining position, said component restraining element being selectively movable to a release position that permits the component in said removal position to be removed from its component holding location by the mounting head.

Add new claim 7 as follows:

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